

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Norikazu ARAI et al. )  
)  
Continuation of Serial No.: 09/487,928 ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
)  
Parent Filed: January 20, 2000 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
)  
For: OPTICAL PICK-UP )  
APPARATUS, )  
RECORDING/REPRODUCING )  
APPARATUS PROVIDED WITH )  
THE OPTICAL PICKUP )  
APPARATUS, OPTICAL )  
ELEMENT, AND )  
INFORMATION )  
RECORDING/REPRODUCING )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application  
as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2, 3, and 78-80 without prejudice or disclaimer of the  
subject matter thereof, and amend claims 1, 4, 5, 77, 81, 82, 135, and 136, as follows: